



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## PROJECT CEASEFIRE **BUTLER MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL DETONATORS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Butler, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing detonators for an explosive device. Today's sentencing, Graves said, is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Keelan G. Wackerman**, 33, of Butler, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to two years in federal prison without parole.

On June 7, 2005, **Wackerman** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of two electric blasting caps. By pleading guilty, **Wackerman** admitted that he possessed the blasting caps on Dec. 12, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm, ammunition or explosive device. **Wackerman** has a 2001 criminal felony conviction for possession of methamphetamine.

Blasting caps are used to detonate an explosive charge, Graves said. Blasting caps contain a small explosive charge that is used to trigger a larger explosive device.

**Wackerman** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 20, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christina Y. Tabor. It was investigated by the Livingston County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

### **Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal

prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html)